

Telecoils and Looping

Approximately 36 million Americans suffer from hearing loss. More than half of the people with hearing loss are younger than age 65.

- Even with the most up-to-date technology, hearing aids and cochlear implants cannot completely separate the sounds you want to hear from background noises, or pick up sounds from a distance, such as in a performance hall or place of worship.
- **Many of today's hearing aids and cochlear implants are fitted with telecoils.**
A small copper coil (the telecoil) can be used to bridge the space between a hearing aid/cochlear implant and the sound source. The sound transmitted to the telecoil can also help eliminate background noise. Using the telecoil in conjunction with a hearing loop is a cost-effective way to improve the usability of your hearing aid or cochlear implant, in comparison to some of the more expensive assistive listening devices on the market.

The telecoils in a hearing aid/cochlear implant can be used in conjunction with a handheld assistive listening device or in a venue that has been looped.
- If a venue is looped it will often have the following symbol displayed to let the public know:
- **Common venues that are looped:**
 - Theaters
 - Places of worship
 - Banks
 - Airports
 - Mass transit systems
 - Doctors' offices
 - Hospitals
 - Government buildings
 - Auditoriums
- Almost any room or facility can be looped. If interested in learning how to advocate for the installation of loops in your community, visit www.HowsYourHearing.org.
- If you are unable to hear with a loop, your audiologist may recommend other hearing assistive listening devices to use, with or without a hearing aid, to enable you to hear better in noise and/or from a distance.
- To learn more about telecoils and your hearing aids/cochlear implants, contact your local audiologist.



For more information on audiology and hearing loss, visit www.HowsYourHearing.org.